Greetings From the President...

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and as welcome in a new century. With a new century, we need to start anew by working on increasing the size of our choirs and becoming more active in our choral programs both at the District and National levels.

Most of us have a need of both new and younger singers in our choirs. Do you remember when you joined your choir and you looked around and you were one of the younger singers? Now look around and you are one of the older ones.

Looking back, I would like to congratulate Mary Dempster, Debbie Hedemann and the Peoria choirs who gave us a wonderful weekend and a successful National Sängerfest.

Looking forward, our past president Gary Luther has everything under control for the next Sängerfest in Madison, Wisconsin in 2022.

The board is still working with the monthly conference calls to keep up with the happenings going on throughout the organization. Calls are usually set for the first Friday of the month at 5:00 pm CST. To get on the call list, e-mail Gary Luther at gary.luther@sbcglobal.net.

Next is the treasurer’s report from Timothy Knoernschild. Our largest expense was the travel to Peoria Sängerfest. The largest deposit was also from the Sängerfest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NASB Account Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning balance:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits: Various dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses: Various dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending balance:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our dues are due by March 31st along with the list of singers and officers and with their e-mail address. Please include the number of printed copies of the Sänger Zeitung that you need. We are trying to limit the number of copies we print. Many choirs have chosen to receive only a few copies and use the NASB Website to get PDF copies of the Sänger Zeitung. Send this information along with your payment to our secretary:

Peter Herdeg  
25 474 Barclay Place  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Thank you for your support and understanding. We have a few stragglers come in late every year. This is why we moved the date to March 31 since some choirs have singers that are on winter break and do not return until after Christmas.

If you have singers that have earned service awards for 25, 40, 50 and 60 years, you need to report them to our 4th vice-president, Sidney McGinty. E-mail sidmcgint@aol.com or mail it.

Sidney McGinty  
12202 Megan Woods Loop  
Houston, TX 77089

Another person you can funnel information to is our Webmaster, 2nd vice president Geoffrey Kroening, e-mail him at gmkroening@aol.com. If you would like to have something posted on our Website, Geoffrey is our go-to person. Our Website is www.nasaengerbund.org.

If you have news or would like to share some old memories from past Sängerfest you can send them to Ronald Kabitzke our Sänger Zeitung editor. His contact is lutheran@wi.rr.com. You can send him news articles and you can also ask him about advertising your events in the Sänger Zeitung.

Our Archivist/Historian Emeritus, Wolfgang Wengler, has been actively working with the University of Cincinnati to find a suitable location for the NASB history. He has most of the items stored in his home and it is taking up more room than he has to

Please see Greetings from the President on Page 3

What’s Inside...

St. Louis Liederkranz celebrating 150 Years  
Page 2

Apollo Männerchor Gemischter Chor 150 Anniversary  
Page 3

Music Directors’ Forum  
Page 3

LIKE us on Facebook

North American Singer’s Association  
Nord-Amerikanischer Sängerbund
St. Louis Liederkranz to celebrate 150 years on June 20, 2020

In June of 2020, the St. Louis Liederkranz will mark a milestone reached by few singing organizations. They will be celebrating 150 years of bringing the love of German folk songs and the music of their immigrant ancestors to their new homeland of America.

Founded in 1870, it was considered one of the most exclusive venues among German-Americans in St. Louis. The Liederkranz was one of the most socially acceptable clubs for the more affluent St. Louis German-Americans who wished to retain ties with the homeland; traditions that were in danger of being lost in their new country. The group met in a hall in a building in downtown St. Louis, until they built their own building in 1907.

According to members, the new building, also known as The Alhambra Grotto, housed game rooms, private and public meeting space, a Rathskellar, several dining rooms (with kitchens), bowling alleys, and both concert and dining halls. It also included a rehearsal hall, musical library and director’s room. In this early part of the new century, the club had grown to more than one thousand members. This included a full orchestra.

At our 100th and 125th Anniversaries, we received proclamations and awards from Germany and other German entities, the most prestigious being the Zelterplakette, created in 1922, to recognize the accomplishments of Karl Friederich Zelter (1758-1832). In 1809, he founded the Liedertafel, the first male chorus and predecessor of the great German Sängerbund. In November 1970, the St. Louis Liederkranz Singing Society became the only society west of the Mississippi presented with the Zelterplakette by Bundespräsident Gustav Heinemann.

Currently, the Club is rehearsing in the Community Room at Bethesda Orchard Senior Living Community. We now number about 25 men and women singers, some born in Germany, some of German descent and some who just like to sing.

On June 20, 2020, we will be giving a concert to celebrate our history of German singing, with a dinner to follow. We are planning a display of historical photos and artifacts, as well as a slide show of our performances. We will continue to have our annual spring dinner concert, sing at a variety of venues by request, and travel to meet with other German singing organizations for a variety of Sängerfests. If you are ever in St. Louis, please look us up!

Website - www.StLiederkranz.weebly.com

Facebook - www.facebook.com/St. Louis Liederkranz German Singing Society
North American Singers Association Foundation

The Nord-Amerikanischer Sängerbund has created a charitable foundation that will provide for scholarships and other charitable gifts. We are very happy to announce that the IRS has approved the North American Singers Association Foundation. Contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

All contributions can be sent to:

North American Singer's Association Foundation
Timothy Knoernschild, Treasurer
870 SE Hwy 7
Clinton, MO 64735

Remember, your contributions are tax deductible!

Apollo Männerchor Gemischter Chor will celebrate their 150th on August 15, 2020

By Wolfgang Wengler
Ehren-Archivar

It was the year 1870 in the city of Sharon, Pennsylvania that a group of German immigrants got together and decided to start a German Choir. So it was that the Apollo Männerchor started.

Not until 1908 was there any talk of owning their own building. That was the year the members of the Männerchor made plans to build a club house of their own. It was completed in 1910 and that year on November 23 the new club house was dedicated.

The choir joined the Nord-Amerikanischer Sängerbund and eventually the Zentral Ohio Singing Society.

In 1945 a Woman's Auxiliary was established. In 1993 the ladies decided to also join the choir and the Gemischter Chor was established.

In the years 1949-1969 and again in 1980 the members remodeled the bar.

During a tornado in 1977 the ballroom was heavily damaged and needed extensive work.

Not until 2018 did the choir vote for a woman as president by electing Helga Wengler to serve as president of the Apollo Männerchor Gemischter Chor.

In the past ten years a dedicated group of hard working members took charge of the club's social business. Besides donating money, this group remodeled the bar with new tables and benches and painting it to greet our members with a traditional hometown atmosphere, serving good German food and traditional German Bier under the leadership of Tom Asmundson, our club president who strives to make our club more like home.

On August 15, 2020 the choir will celebrate the 150th Anniversary with a concert in our ballroom.

The club will celebrate the Anniversary in September with an extended Oktoberfest celebration in honor of 150 years of German singing.

Music Directors' Forum 2020

From Dr. Marc Heeg
NASB Music Director

Peggy Pancella of the St Louis Liederkranz is coordinating the next Music Directors' Forum this year in the Gateway City. Directors from all over will gather for an important session June Friday morning June 19 through lunch Saturday June 20.

Among agenda items, we’re anticipating reviewing and proofing the music books for the 2022 Sängerfest, planning for regional/Bezirk rehearsals in the year before to get folks on board for the Grand Concert at the Sängerbund, and rehearsing as the "Directors’ Chorus” to participate in the Liederkranz’s 150th anniversary that Saturday afternoon!

The following information is lifted from a local newspaper: “The Liederkranz Club is a St. Louis-based nonprofit German singing society which has performed for the St. Louis area for going on 150 years.

On Saturday, June 20, 2020, the Liederkranz Club will host a dinner and concert at St. Louis University High School.” For further information please contact Peggy Pancella at pancella@charter.net. Hope to see lots of us folks there!

NASB Archives Report
From Wolfgang Wengler
Ehren-Archivar

After an extensive search for the right place for our archives, I have found the perfect home for the archives. Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann has agreed to accept the NASB Archive for the Cincinnati German Historical Museum.

The NASB was established in 1848 and the first concert was held in 1849 in Cincinnati.

Dr. Tolzmann is president of the Cincinnati German Historical Society and has written many books on German immigration and German-American history.

Included in his collection are the first concert songbook and songbook and program books from 1846 to 2019, a list of all songs from concert, NASB officers, Damenchor officers, cities where concerts were held including attendance and a list of German singing societies with the dates they were established.

All the information is digitized and available on the NASB website.

I would like to thank the officers of the NASB for their cooperation for me to be able to gather all of the information and preserve our history. I also thank the contributors who took the time to send me program books, song books and pictures.

Special thanks to the Evansville Singing Society for the historical books from 1846 to 1900. Thanks to my wife, Helga, for putting up with the extra file cabinets in the house and losing the use of the dining room table for weeks on end.
Greetings From the President from page 1

spare. He has offered to take the history of the NASB from Youngstown, Ohio to Cincinnati when the weather permits. He has also been working with our Archivar, Marlina Voight. Wolfgang reported that it was a team effort to get this accomplished. They felt that Cincinnati was the perfect location because it was in Cincinnati where the NASB was formed and the NASB had their first concert in Cincinnati.

I would like to spend a minute on our foundation. It has seemed to have taken a back seat for our organization. Donations have dropped to under $100.00 for the past few years.

The Foundation was a dream come true for Timothy Pecsenye. His dream was to have the Foundation provide for education of our music directors, purchase sheet music, to help fund the directors’ forum and to help the host choir of a National Sängertfest to pay for the publishing rights for the music we would use for the songbooks.

We need some ideas to raise funds so we can support some of the goals that were set in the beginning. If you know of a corporation that offers grants for music or for the continuation to keep the German heritage of our ancestors alive in our hearts, please share your ideas.

**NASB Foundation Financials**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning balance</th>
<th>June 5, 2019</th>
<th>$13,811.11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deposits and interest earned</td>
<td>175.84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>1,386.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending balance</td>
<td>December 31, 2019</td>
<td>$12,600.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax deductible charity, so if you itemize your taxes, you can use your donation to reduce your tax liability to the IRS.

Send your donations to:
North American Singers Foundation
Timothy Knornschild, Treasurer
8698 E Hwy 7
Clinton, MO 64735

Thank you for your Donation in advance. We appreciate your donation.

You can remember the NASB in your will and/or estate plan as another way to help keep the NASB going on for the next generation.

I feel that our organization is in good order for the year 2020 and I am looking forward to a good New Year.

If you are planning an Anniversary of a Sängertfest in your district, please contact me at:

Paul Bockstege, President
1917 Hawkeye Drive
Evansville, IN 47720

Phone: (812)445.3616
E-mail: Paul.Bockstege@gmail.com or pdbins@aol.com

Mit besten Sängergruß

Paul Bockstege, President

---

**NASB Sängerfest 2022**

The Wisconsin Sängerbezirk and Madison Männerchor have laid the groundwork for an exemplary Fest to be held in Madison, WI, from June 9 through 12, 2022. We have selected the music, venues and are working now with the hotels in the city to get the best prices possible for the event.

The NASB music directors met in San Antonio, TX and agreed with the Mass Concert repertoire recommended by the Wisconsin Fest Music Committee.

Wisconsin is committed to publishing and mailing the Songbooks by October 31, 2020. This will give all choral groups the opportunity to rehearse and include the music in their concerts and district Sängertests.

**The Sängertfest 2022 current program schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, June 9</th>
<th>Saturday, June 11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NASB Association Meeting Dämmerschoppen</td>
<td>Mass Concert rehearsal Mass Concert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dämmerschoppen</td>
<td>NASB Banquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 10</td>
<td>Post banquet dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NASB Vorstand Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District rehearsals</td>
<td>Sunday, June 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empfangskonzert</td>
<td>Mass singing in the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Empfangskonzert Dance</td>
<td>Wisconsin Capitol Rotunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frühschoppen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>